



City of Belton

Police Department

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
Sept. 12, 2013

Contact: Belton Police
Chief Gene Ellis
254-933-5840

Belton City Council Passes New Commercial Alarm Ordinance

A new ordinance approved by the Belton City Council on Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2013, requires business intrusion alarms to be permitted through the Belton Police Department. Permits will be issued at no cost and will be valid for three years. Businesses with silent alarm systems that alert only the occupant or owner, and are not monitored by an alarm company, are exempt from the permitting process. Private residences with alarm systems are also exempt, although a voluntary permitting system will be established for residents who want to provide emergency contact information to the police department.

The ordinance establishes false alarm service fees for businesses with excessive false alarms. The false alarms will be documented by the Belton Police Department and totaled on an annual basis. Business with more than four documented false alarms in a calendar year will be subjected to the fee. The fee scale is as follows:

5 to 7 False Alarms	8 to 10 False Alarms	11 or More False Alarms
\$50	\$75	\$100

The Belton Police Department responds to approximately 1,200 residential and commercial burglary/intrusion alarms a year. Most of the alarms are false and caused by either faulty equipment or human error. While alarm systems serve as an excellent crime deterrent and assist law enforcement with capturing criminals, excessive false alarms can negatively impact police operations.

